FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON BILL NO. **H3617**
(Doc. No. 22749sd07.doc)

TO:	The Honorable Robert E. "Bob" Walker, Chairperson, House Education and Public Works Committee
FROM:	Office of State Budget, Budget and Control Board
ANALYSTS:	Trey Kannaday
DATE:	April 2, 2007 SBD: 2007222

AUTHOR:	Representative F.N. Smith	PRIMARY CODE CITE: 59-67-240
SUBJECT:	School Bus Driver Duties	

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:
See Below

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON FEDERAL & OTHER FUND EXPENDITURES:
$0 (No additional expenditures or savings are expected)

BILL SUMMARY:

House Bill 3617 provides that school bus drivers must return pupils to their appropriate bus stop sites only, and instructs the driver what actions to take if he is unsure of the pupil's appropriate bus stop site.

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT:

The cost to the State and/or the school districts depends on the number of instances where a bus driver returns a child to school because of the uncertainty of his or her bus stop. Assuming a recurrence rate of 10%, the cost could be estimated at $1,076,400, including fringe benefits. This cost estimate includes one extra hour of work for the state's 5,000 bus drivers at an average hourly rate of $9.20 (excluding fringe benefits) for 180 school days. However, there are no historical data upon which to predict the requisite additional hours.

The State school bus transportation system is currently funded with a combination of State appropriations and local school district funds which are used to cover operating expenses including bus driver salaries. State funding for the system includes "flow through" funds to the districts which are used primarily to supplement bus drivers' (district employees) salaries. It is at the discretion of the General Assembly whether to fund these costs using the State General Fund or local funds.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT IMPACT:

None.

SPECIAL NOTES:

None.

Approved by:

Harry Bell

Harry Bell
Assistant Director, Office of State Budget

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